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Medical Administration

Provision of a Boys' Hostel for the Medical College, Madras.

*604 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to provide a boys' hostel for the Medical College students;

(*b*) if so, what the total cost is of the estimates and when the same will be sanctioned; and

(*c*) what the cause is for the delay?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The scheme for the construction of a hostel for the male students of the Madras Medical College at an approximate cost of Rs. 1,87,500 (excluding the cost of land) was sanctioned by the Government in April 1927. Subsequently the Surgeon-General submitted a revised scheme which was estimated to cost about Rs. 3 lakhs. This scheme, with slight modifications, was sanctioned in July 1929.

(*c*) The construction of the buildings was taken up after the scheme was sanctioned in July 1929, and foundations were laid. In view of the then prevailing financial stringency and in pursuance of the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee, the construction of the buildings was postponed for a period of two years with effect from September 1931. In August 1933, the Surgeon-General submitted proposals for the renewal of the work. In the meanwhile in view of the urgent need for a site for the new buildings proposed to be constructed for the Government Press, the Government ordered that the suitability of the hostel site for the location of the new Press buildings should be investigated. In these circumstances the construction of buildings for the hostel could not be proceeded with. It will take some months to arrive at a final decision on the question.

Appointment of a male Medical officer to be in charge of the Maternity ward of the Women and Children's Hospital, Mangalore.

* 605 *Q.*—Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact, that there are two women doctors in the Women and Children's Hospital at Mangalore and yet a medical man who is an honorary surgeon is put in charge of the maternity ward;

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(*b*) whether the two women doctors have been found not competent to be in charge of the maternity ward; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to appoint for this hospital as honorary surgeon a woman instead of a man as soon as a qualified woman is available?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The women doctors are competent and attend to labour cases including the application of forceps. The Honorary Surgeon is however a specialist in midwifery with English qualifications.

(*c*) No.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal before the Government to appoint as honorary surgeon a woman doctor instead of a man, as soon as possible, as the Government must be aware of the difficulties experienced by Gosha ladies on account of a man being put in charge of the maternity ward?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There is no proposal to appoint a honorary lady doctor, because none are available. Besides, there are two Government lady doctors in the hospital."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"But they are not put in charge of the maternity ward, while the male doctor is put in charge?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"No, Sir; they are really doing the work. Because we obtained a male honorary doctor, we appointed him as honorary surgeon."

Agriculture

Survey of rice trade in the Presidency.

*606 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether any officer has been appointed for making a survey of the rice trade in this Presidency?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given to question No. 541 asked by Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari. Orders sanctioning the appointment of an officer will issue soon.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know, Sir, the points which the officer will be called upon to investigate?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"He will be asked to collect statistics in regard chiefly to the trade in rice and paddy."